

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 302

BY SENATORS APPEL, DONAHUE, DUPLESSIS, MARTINY AND QUINN AND  
REPRESENTATIVES BOBBY BADON, HENRY BURNS, TIM  
BURNS, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, GISCLAIR, GUILLORY, HARDY,  
HOFFMANN, LIGI AND ROBIDEAUX

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY. Requires BESE to assign letter grades to public  
schools and school districts reflective of their performance. (8/15/10)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:10.1(D), relative to the Louisiana school and district accountability system;  
to provide for the assignment of letter grades to schools and school districts that are  
reflective of their performance; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:10.1(D) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§10.1. School and district accountability system; purpose; responsibilities of state  
board

\* \* \*

**D. In addition to any other performance related labels or designations  
assigned to public schools and school districts pursuant to the school and  
district accountability system, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
Education, in consultation with parents, teachers, school administrators, and  
other education stakeholders, shall develop a letter grade system reflective of  
school and district performance that shall include, but not necessarily be limited  
to, the following:**

**(1)(a) Assignment of a letter grade to each public elementary and**

1 secondary school and school district that is based upon the current method of  
2 determining school and district performance scores.

3 (b) Any school that has been labeled academically unacceptable shall be  
4 assigned a grade of "F".

5 (2) Inclusion of the letter grade assigned to each public school and school  
6 district in the school report cards compiled by the Department of Education and  
7 distributed to parents and in any public release of school and district  
8 performance scores.

9 (3) Creation of an honor roll which recognizes all high performing  
10 schools and high schools with graduation rates that exceed the state average  
11 which shall also be made public when information relative to school and district  
12 performance scores and letter grades are released.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

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#### DIGEST

Appel (SB 302)

Proposed law provides that in addition to any other performance related labels or designations assigned to public schools and school districts pursuant to the school and district accountability system, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in consultation with parents, teachers, school administrators, and other education stakeholders, shall develop a letter grade system reflective of school and district performance that shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Assignment of a letter grade to each public elementary and secondary school and school district based upon the current method of determining school and district performance scores. Provides that any school that has been labeled academically unacceptable shall be assigned a grade of "F".
2. Inclusion of the letter grade assigned to each public school and school district in the school report cards compiled by the Dept. of Education and distributed to parents and in any public release of school and district performance scores.
3. Recognition of high performing, high poverty schools and high schools with graduation rates that exceed the state average when information relative to school and district performance scores and letter grades are publicly released.

Effective August 15, 2010.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.1(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Requires BESE to consult with parents, teachers, school administrators, and other education stakeholders when developing letter grade system.